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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/743,870	12/24/2003	Yuji Yasui	108419-00055	9352

7590 06/03/2005

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EXAMINER

TRAN, BINH Q

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
	3748

DATE MAILED: 06/03/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/743,870	YASUI ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	BINH Q. TRAN	3748

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by Emmerling et al. (Emmerling) (Patent Number 6,119,448).

Regarding claims 1, 5, and 9, Emmerling discloses an exhaust gas purifying apparatus for an internal combustion engine (1) comprising: a NOx selective reduction catalyst (8) disposed in an exhaust passage of said internal combustion engine for purifying NOx in exhaust gases

flowing through said exhaust passage under the existence of a reducing agent; a NOx detector (17) disposed in said exhaust pipe at a location downstream of said NOx selective reduction catalyst for detecting a NOx concentration in exhaust gases; a reducing agent supply unit (e.g. 10, 11, 12, 13) for supplying the reducing agent to said NOx selective reduction catalyst; and supply amount determining means (14) for determining the amount of the reducing agent supplied to said NOx selective reduction catalyst by said reducing agent supply unit such that the NOx concentration detected by said NOx detector reaches an extreme value (e.g. See col. 4, lines 5-67; cols. 5-6, lines 1-67).

Regarding claims 2, 6, and 10, Emmerling further discloses an upstream NOx detector (22) disposed in said exhaust passage at a location upstream of said NOx selective reduction catalyst for detecting the NOx concentration in exhaust gases; and exhaust gas volume detecting means ($V_{\text{exhaustgas}}$) for detecting an exhaust gas volume of said internal combustion engine 9e.g. See col. 5, lines 37-65), wherein said supply amount determining means includes: basic supply amount determining means for determining a basic supply amount of the reducing agent to said NOx selective reduction catalyst in accordance with the NOx concentration detected by said upstream NOx detector and the detected exhaust gas volume; and correcting means for correcting said determined basic supply amount of the reducing agent such that the NOx concentration detected by said NOx detector reaches an extreme value (e.g. See col. 4, lines 5-67; cols. 5-6, lines 1-67).

Regarding claims 3, 7, and 11, Emmerling further discloses a reducing agent production unit for producing the reducing agent using at least a fuel for said internal combustion engine as a raw material (e.g. See col. 4, lines 5-67; cols. 5-6, lines 1-67).

Regarding claims 4, 8, and 12, Emmerling further discloses that the reducing agent is ammonia (e.g. See col. 4, lines 5-67; cols. 5-6, lines 1-67).

Prior Art

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure and consists of five patents:

Frankle et al. (Pat. No. 5845487), Kawai et al. (Pat. No. 6755014), Lang et al. (Pat. No. 6499291), Xu et al. (Pat. No. 6427439), and Gladden (Pat. No. 6761025) all discloses an exhaust gas purification for use with an internal combustion engine.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Binh Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-4865. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas E. Denion, can be reached on (571) 272-4859. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306 for regular communications and for After Final communications.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



BT
May 28, 2005

Binh Q. Tran
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3748